

**Notice of Allowability**

Application No.

09/975,929

Examiner

Matt P Hodges

Applicant(s)

OOISHI ET AL.

Art Unit

2879

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address--

All claims being allowable, PROSECUTION ON THE MERITS IS (OR REMAINS) CLOSED in this application. If not included herewith (or previously mailed), a Notice of Allowance (PTOL-85) or other appropriate communication will be mailed in due course. **THIS NOTICE OF ALLOWABILITY IS NOT A GRANT OF PATENT RIGHTS.** This application is subject to withdrawal from issue at the initiative of the Office or upon petition by the applicant. See 37 CFR 1.313 and MPEP 1308.

1. ☒ This communication is responsive to Amendment Dated 8/13/2004.
2. ☒ The allowed claim(s) is/are 1-4,6-14,16,18,20 and 22-28.
3. ☒ The drawings filed on 15 October 2003 are accepted by the Examiner.
4. ☒ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☒ All b) ☐ Some\* c) ☐ None of the:
1. ☒ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. \_\_\_\_\_.
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this national stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

\* Certified copies not received: \_\_\_\_\_.

Applicant has THREE MONTHS FROM THE "MAILING DATE" of this communication to file a reply complying with the requirements noted below. Failure to timely comply will result in ABANDONMENT of this application.  
**THIS THREE-MONTH PERIOD IS NOT EXTENDABLE.**

5. ☐ A SUBSTITUTE OATH OR DECLARATION must be submitted. Note the attached EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT or NOTICE OF INFORMAL PATENT APPLICATION (PTO-152) which gives reason(s) why the oath or declaration is deficient.
6. ☐ CORRECTED DRAWINGS (as "replacement sheets") must be submitted.
- (a) ☐ including changes required by the Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) attached
- 1) ☐ hereto or 2) ☐ to Paper No./Mail Date \_\_\_\_\_.
- (b) ☐ including changes required by the attached Examiner's Amendment / Comment or in the Office action of Paper No./Mail Date \_\_\_\_\_.
- Identifying indicia such as the application number (see 37 CFR 1.84(c)) should be written on the drawings in the front (not the back) of each sheet. Replacement sheet(s) should be labeled as such in the header according to 37 CFR 1.121(d).
7. ☐ DEPOSIT OF and/or INFORMATION about the deposit of BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL must be submitted. Note the attached Examiner's comment regarding REQUIREMENT FOR THE DEPOSIT OF BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL.

**Attachment(s)**

1. ☐ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
2. ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
3. ☒ Information Disclosure Statements (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08), Paper No./Mail Date 2/26/2004
4. ☐ Examiner's Comment Regarding Requirement for Deposit of Biological Material
5. ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
6. ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413), Paper No./Mail Date \_\_\_\_\_.
7. ☒ Examiner's Amendment/Comment
8. ☒ Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance
9. ☐ Other \_\_\_\_\_.

### **EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT**

An examiner's amendment to the record appears below. Should the changes and/or additions be unacceptable to applicant, an amendment may be filed as provided by 37 CFR 1.312. To ensure consideration of such an amendment, it MUST be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee.

The application has been amended as follows:

Claim 24 line 9, the typographical error "la" in the line "... wiring respectively la on the plural..." should be removed.

### ***Response to Amendment***

The Amendment, filed on 8/13/2004, has been entered and acknowledged by the Examiner.

Cancellation of claims 5, 19 and 21 has been entered.

### ***Allowable Subject Matter***

Claims 1-4, 6-14, 16, 18, 20, and 22-28 are allowed

The following is an examiner's statement of reasons for allowance:

Regarding claim 1, the references of the Prior Art of record fails to teach or suggest the combination of the limitations as set forth in claim 1, and specifically comprising the limitation of an organic EL device including a transparent substrate, a transparent front electrode, an organic thing film layer and a back electrode formed in that order. Further including a metal auxiliary electrode connected to either the transparent front electrode or the back electrode

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outside of the display area and a sealing member bonded and fixed to the substrate and encircling the display area. Where there is at least one discontinuity that extends the full width of the metal auxiliary electrode at the bonded part of the electrode and the substrate at a sealing portion.

Regarding claims 4, 6, 8, 10, 12, 20, 22, and 23, claims 4, 6, 8, 10, 12, 20, 22, and 23 are allowable for the reasons given in claim 1 because of their dependency status from claim 1.

Regarding claim 2, the references of the Prior Art of record fails to teach or suggest the combination of the limitations as set forth in claim 2, and specifically comprising the limitation of an organic EL device including a transparent substrate, a transparent front electrode, an organic thing film layer and a back electrode formed in that order. Further including a sealing member bonded and fixed to the substrate and encircling the display area, a first metal auxiliary electrode formed outside of the sealing area and a second metal auxiliary electrode connected to an inside of the sealing member. Where the first and second metal auxiliary electrodes form a lead wiring and are fully separated from each other in a plan view.

Regarding claims 3, 7, 9, 11, and 13, claims 3, 7, 9, 11, and 13 are allowable for the reasons given in claim 2 because of their dependency status from claim 2.

Regarding claim 14, the references of the Prior Art of record fails to teach or suggest the combination of the limitations as set forth in claim 14, and specifically comprising the limitation of an organic EL device including a transparent substrate, transparent front electrodes, an organic thing film layer and back electrodes formed in that order. Further including metal auxiliary electrodes connected to either one of the transparent front electrodes or the back electrodes outside of the display area and a sealing member bonded and fixed to the substrate and encircling the display area. Where there is at least one discontinuity that extends the full width of at least

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one of the metal auxiliary electrodes at the bonded part of the electrode and the substrate at a sealing portion.

Regarding claims 16, 18, and 27, claims 16, 18, and 27 are allowable for the reasons given in claim 14 because of their dependency status from claim 14.

Regarding claim 24, the references of the Prior Art of record fails to teach or suggest the combination of the limitations as set forth in claim 24, and specifically comprising the limitation of an organic EL device including a transparent substrate, transparent front electrodes, an organic thing film layer and back electrodes formed in that order. Further including a sealing member bonded and fixed to the substrate and encircling the display area and metal auxiliary electrodes to be leading wiring on the transparent electrodes. Where the metal auxiliary electrodes include a first part formed outside of the sealing member and a second part formed inside of the sealing member and the first and second parts are fully separated from each other in a plan view.

Regarding claims 25 and 26, claims 25 and 26 are allowable for the reasons given in claim 24 because of their dependency status from claim 24.

Regarding claim 28, the references of the Prior Art of record fails to teach or suggest the combination of the limitations as set forth in claim 28, and specifically comprising the limitation of an organic EL device including metal auxiliary electrodes connected to a transparent electrode formed outside of the sealing area where the auxiliary electrodes includes at least one opening in the bonding area and a front electrode does not extend past the sealing area.

Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany the issue

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fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance."

***Contact Information***

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Matt P Hodges whose telephone number is (571) 272-2454. The examiner can normally be reached on 7:30 AM to 4:00 PM M-F.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Nimesh Patel can be reached on (571) 272-2457. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is (703) 872-9306.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

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